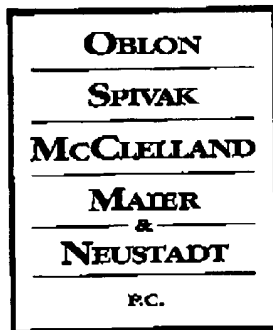


SEP. 11. 2003 4:30PM

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| COMPANY/FIRM | | FAX # | |
| NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: | 12 | CONFIRM FAX: | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |
| FROM | Philip J. Hoffmann | 216011US3 | |
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OSMM&N File No. 216011US3

Serial No. 09/987.551

In the matter of the Application of: Yoshinobu TAKANO, et al.

For: BRANCHING METHOD FOR AN OPTICAL FIBER CABLE

Dept.: E/M

By: GJM/CDW/PH/me

Due Date: August 7, 2003

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent Office on the date stamped hereon:

☒ Check for \$252.00

☒ Dep. Acct. Order Form

☒ Cover Letter

☒ Amendment (After Final)

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Docket No. 216011US3

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Yoshinobu TAKANO, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/987,551

FILED: November 15, 2001

FOR: BRANCHING METHOD FOR AN OPTICAL FIBER CABLE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ No additional fee is required
- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.
- ☐ Additional documents filed herewith:

The Fee has been calculated as shown below:


| CLAIMS | CLAIMS REMAINING | | HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID | NO. EXTRA CLAIMS | RATE | CALCULATIONS |
|-------------|---------------------|--|---|------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| TOTAL | 13 | MINUS | 20 | 0 | x \$18 = | \$0.00 |
| INDEPENDENT | 6 | MINUS | 3 | 3 | x \$84 = | \$252.00 |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS | | | + \$280 = | \$0.00 |
| | | TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS | | | | \$252.00 |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity | | | | \$0.00 |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Recordation of Assignment | | | | \$0.00 |
| | | TOTAL | | | | \$252.00 |

☒ A check in the amount of \$252.00 is attached.

☐ Credit card payment form is attached to cover the fees in the amount of \$0.00

☒ Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment form is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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(OSMMN 05/03)

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216011US3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
Yoshinobu TAKANO, et al. : GROUP: 2874
SERIAL NO: 09/987,551 :
FILED: November 15, 2001 : EXAMINER: KNAUSS, S.
FOR: BRANCHING METHOD FOR AN :
OPTICAL FIBER CABLE

AMENDMENT UNDER C.F.R § 1.116 (AFTER FINAL)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated May 7, 2003, please consider the remarks

below and amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are shown on the listing of the claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.